

REMARKS

In the Advisory Action mailed January 13, 2004, the Examiner indicated that the amendment filed December 3, 2003, required a new search and would not be entered. Accordingly, prior to the entry of the amendments above in this paper, claims 25 and 27-43 are pending in this application. Claims 27-42 are withdrawn from consideration. Claim 25 is allowed. See Office Action mailed October 1, 2003, page 3.¹ Claim 43 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. See *id.*, pages 2-3.

Applicants thank Examiner Leffers for extending the courtesy of a telephonic interview to the undersigned representative on January 29, 2004. The following remarks include a statement of the substance of the interview. During the interview, the status of the application, a proposed amendment canceling claim 43, and the status of claim 25 were discussed. Based on that interview, applicants have canceled claims 27-43 without disclaimer of or prejudice to the subject matter recited therein. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the matter in these canceled claims in a related application. Allowed claim 25 is the sole claim pending in the application after entry of the amendment.

Applicants respectfully request that this Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner. Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants request the Examiner's reconsideration of the application, and the timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance.


¹ The Advisory Action mailed January 13, 2003, incorrectly indicates that claim 25 is rejected.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 30, 2004

By: 
William L. Strauss
Reg. No. 47,114